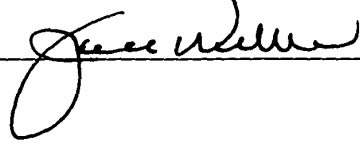


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this date: December 20, 2001

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: \_\_\_\_\_



10 RECEIVED 07 JAN 2002 PATENT  
Money Docket No. 81992  
Client Reference No. 22.1976/CL #



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

MICHAEL BOTHE, ET AL.

Application No. 09/180,699

Filed: November 13, 1998

For: APPARATUS FOR PROTECTING  
ELECTRONIC CIRCUITRY

Examiner: [unknown]

Art Unit: [unknown]

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 and  
§1.98

San Francisco, CA 94111  
December 20, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The references cited on attached form PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B are being called to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the references are enclosed. Also enclosed is a copy of the Search/Examination report corresponding to the PCT application. It is respectfully requested that the cited references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement, and no representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

Application No. 09/180,  
Page 2

Applicants believe that no fee is required for submission of this statement, since it is being submitted prior to the first Office Action. However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



J. Georg Soka  
Reg. No. 24,491

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP  
Two Embarcadero Center, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
San Francisco, California 94111-3834  
Tel: 415-576-0200  
Fax: 415-576-0300  
JGS

10 Rev. 10/97

07 JAN 2002

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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

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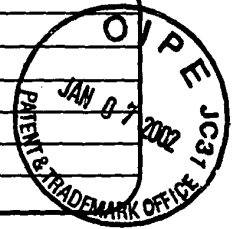
**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of

Complete if Known

|                        |                   |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Application Number     | 09/180,699        |
| Filing Date            | November 13, 1998 |
| First Named Inventor   | Bothe, Michael    |
| Group Art Unit         | [unknown]         |
| Examiner Name          | [unknown]         |
| Attorney Docket Number | 81992             |

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | U.S. Patent Document |                                      | Name of Patentee or Applicant<br>of Cited Document | Date of Publication of<br>Cited Document<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant<br>Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|
|                       |                          | Number               | Kind Code <sup>2</sup><br>(if known) |  |  |  |
|                       | AA                       | 5,311,164            |                                      | Ikeda et al.                                       | 5/10/94  |  |
|                       | AB                       |                      |                                      |  |  |  |
|                       | AC                       |                      |                                      |  |  |  |
|                       | AD                       |                      |                                      |  |  |  |
|                       | AE                       |                      |                                      |  |  |  |
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|                       | AJ                       |                      |                                      |  |  |  |
|                       | AK                       |                      |                                      |  |  |  |
|                       | AL                       |                      |                                      |  |  |  |
|                       | AM                       |                      |                                      |  |  |  |
|                       | AN                       |                      |                                      |  |  |  |
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|                       | AR                       |                      |                                      |  |  |  |
|                       | AS                       |                      |                                      |  |  |  |
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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document |                     |                                      | Name of Patentee<br>or Applicant of<br>Cited Document | Date of Publication of<br>Cited Document<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant<br>Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
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|                       |                          | Office <sup>3</sup>     | Number <sup>4</sup> | Kind Code <sup>5</sup><br>(if known) |   |  |  |                |
|                       | AU                       | EP                      | 0 130 403           |                                      | KRONE GmbH  | 1/9/85   |  |                |
|                       | AV                       | EP                      | 0 270 044           |                                      | BBC Brown Boveri<br>AG                                | 6/8/88   |  |                |
|                       | AW                       |                         |                     |                                      |   |  |  |                |
|                       | AX                       |                         |                     |                                      |   |  |  |                |
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|                       | AZ                       |                         |                     |                                      |   |  |  |                |
|                       | BA                       |                         |                     |                                      |   |  |  |                |

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<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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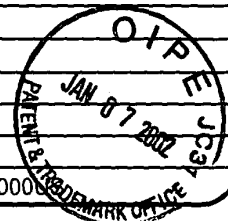
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| <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><br>(use as many sheets as necessary) |                        |               | Application Number       |  |
|   |                        |               | Filing Date              |  |
|   |                        |               | First Named Inventor     |  |
|   |                        |               | Group Art Unit           |  |
|   |                        |               | Examiner Name            |  |
| Sheet 2 of  | Attorney Docket Number | 081992-000000 |                          |  |



| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |                         |                     |                                      |   |  |  |                |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|--|----------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials*    | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document |                     |                                      | Name of Patentee<br>or Applicant of<br>Cited Document | Date of Publication of<br>Cited Document<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant<br>Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
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| Examiner<br>Signature |  | Date<br>Considered |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|

<sup>1</sup> EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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Application Number

Filing Date

First Named Inventor

Group Art Unit

Examiner Name

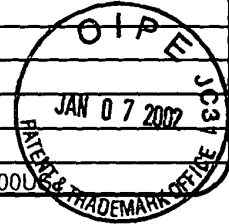
Attorney Docket Number

081992-0000000

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3

of



### OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| Examiner<br>Initials * | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the<br>item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue<br>number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T <sup>2</sup> |
|------------------------|--------------------------|---|----------------|
|                        | BC                       |   |                |
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|                        | BE                       |   |                |
|                        | BF                       |   |                |
|                        | BG                       |   |                |
|                        | BH                       |   |                |
|                        | BI                       |   |                |
|                        | BJ                       |   |                |
|                        | BK                       |   |                |
|                        | BL                       |   |                |
|                        | BM                       |   |                |

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<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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A. KLASSIFIZIERUNG DES ANMELDUNGSGEGENSTANDES  
 IPK 6 H02H9/04 H01M2/34 H01T1/14

Nach der Internationalen Patentklassifikation (IPK) oder nach der nationalen Klassifikation und der IPK

## B. RECHERCHIERTE GEBIETE

Recherchierter Mindestprüfstoff (Klassifikationssystem und Klassifikationssymbole)

IPK 6 H02H H01M H01H H01T

Recherchierte aber nicht zum Mindestprüfstoff gehörende Veröffentlichungen, soweit diese unter die recherchierten Gebiete fallen

Während der internationalen Recherche konsultierte elektronische Datenbank (Name der Datenbank und evtl. verwendete Suchbegriffe)

## C. ALS WESENTLICH ANGESEHENE UNTERLAGEN

| Kategorie* | Bezeichnung der Veröffentlichung, soweit erforderlich unter Angabe der in Betracht kommenden Teile | Betr. Anspruch Nr. |
|------------|--|--------------------|
| X          | US 5 311 164 A (IKEDA FUJIO ET AL) 10.Mai 1994   | 1-8                |
| Y          | siehe das ganze Dokument   | 9-11               |
| Y          | EP 0 270 044 A (BBC BROWN BOVERI & CIE) 8.Juni 1988  | 9-11               |
| A          | siehe Spalte 2, Zeile 32 - Spalte 4, Zeile 31; Abbildung 1   | 1                  |
| A          | EP 0 130 403 A (KRONE GMBH) 9.Januar 1985<br>siehe Zusammenfassung                                 | 1,3-5              |

☐ Weitere Veröffentlichungen sind der Fortsetzung von Feld C zu entnehmen

☒ Siehe Anhang Patentfamilie

\* Besondere Kategorien von angegebenen Veröffentlichungen :

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Datum des Abschlusses der internationalen Recherche

21.Mai 1997

Absendedatum des internationalen Recherchenberichts

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 Europäisches Patentamt, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
 Tel. (+ 31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
 Fax (+ 31-70) 340-3016

Bevollmächtigter Bediensteter

Salm, R

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/EP97/00689

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPK 6 H02H9/04 H01M2/34 H01T1/14

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPK 6 H02H H01M H01H H01T

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|--|-----------------------|
| X         | US 5 311 164 A (IKEDA FUJIO ET AL) May 10, 1994                                    | 1-8                   |
| Y         | see entire document  | 9-11                  |
| Y         | EP 0 270 044 A (BBC BROWN BOVERI & CIE)<br>June 8, 1988                            | 9-11                  |
| A         | see column 2, line 32 - column 4, line 31, Figure 1                                | 1                     |
| A         | EP 0 130 403 A (KRONE GMBH) January 9, 1985<br>see Abstract                        | 1,3-5                 |

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☒ See patent family annex.

## \* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

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"&amp;" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search  
May 21, 1997Date of mailing of the international search report  
May 28, 1997Name and mailing address of the ISA/  
European Patent Office, P.B. 5818  
Patentlaan 2, NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk

Facsimile No.

Authorized officer

R. Salm  
Telephone No.

# INTERNATIONALER RECHERCHENBERICHT

Angaben zu Veröffentlichung, die zur selben Patentfamilie gehören

Internationales Aktenzeichen

PCT/EP 97/00689

| Im Recherchenbericht<br>angeführtes Patentdokument | Datum der<br>Veröffentlichung | Mitglied(er) der<br>Patentfamilie | Datum der<br>Veröffentlichung |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| US 5311164 A                                       | 10-05-94                      | JP 5111151 A                      | 30-04-93                      |
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|  |                               | CA 2080333 A                      | 18-04-93                      |
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|  |                               | DK 169370 B                       | 10-10-94                      |
|  |                               | GB 2142779 A,B                    | 23-01-85                      |
|  |                               | JP 1645312 C                      | 28-02-92                      |
|  |                               | JP 3006634 B                      | 30-01-91                      |
|  |                               | JP 60054186 A                     | 28-03-85                      |
|  |                               | US 4642723 A                      | 10-02-87                      |